



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

NEWS

Eastern Region – 2714 N. Mayfair – Spokane, WA 99207 - (509) 324-6000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 20, 2002

Contact: Al Gilson, Public Information Officer, (509) 324-6015

Keller Ferry service to be disrupted in April as routine repairs and maintenance are completed

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) will be performing routine repairs and maintenance to the Keller Ferry, which crosses the Columbia River on State Route 21. The ferry will be out of service beginning at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, April 1, 2002. Service is expected to resume at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 6, 2002.

Service crews will be replacing one of the ferry's two engines as well as performing additional minor repairs and scheduled maintenance.

During this short maintenance period, motorists are advised to seek alternative state routes. North/south traffic may use the SR 155 via SR 174 through Coulee Dam, west of the Keller Ferry.

The vessel, *Martha S.*, also known as the Keller Ferry, has been in continuous service since 1949. The Ferry crosses the Columbia River on State Route 21 at its confluence with the Sanpoil River from Ferry County and the Colville Indian Reservation on the north back to Lincoln County on the south. The ferry has a top travel speed of 12 miles per hour, taking the ferry about 10 minutes to cross the river. Approximately 60,000 vehicles travel on the Keller Ferry each year. The free ferry operates seven days a week, 18 hours a day, from 6:00 a.m. until midnight.

For additional information on the scheduled closure, please contact the maintenance office at the following address:

Dale Luiten, Area Maintenance Superintendent
Washington State Department of Transportation
1407 Morgan Street
Davenport, WA 99122
(509) 725-4191

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